Community Energy Planning and Implementation Network (CEPIN)

December, 2019

About QUEST

- National non-governmental organization working to accelerate Smart Energy Communities across Canada - est. 2007

- Mission: To accelerate the adoption of efficient and integrated community-scale energy systems in Canada by informing, inspiring, and connecting decision-makers.

- 10 Working Groups - National and local (DERs, District Energy, CHP, Municipal and Community Energy Planning, Buildings, etc.)

- National and regional events

- Projects, research, tools, advisory services and advocacy

QUEST

What is CEPIN?

- Community Energy Planning and Implementation Network

- One of QUEST's working groups, based in Ontario

- Members include representatives from local governments, utilities, and energy service providers
  - *Open to anyone engaging in community energy planning*

- Goals and Priorities
  - *Foster continuous knowledge sharing between members*
  - *Help each member advance community energy planning initiatives*
  - *Advocate for supportive provincial-level policies and programs*

QUEST

Toward Planning Alignment

PROJECT OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND

- Joint initiative of **QUEST** and the **Clean Air Partnership**, supported by the **IESO** Education and Capacity Building program

- Builds on the Energy Community of Practice Project (ECOP) 2014 - 2016

- Deliverables: 5 multi-stakeholder workshops and a final report available at: https://questcanada.org/project/toward-planning-alignment/

BACKGROUND CONTEXT

ENERGY PLANNING IN ONTARIO

IESO

Regional Planning

Process to plan for and address specific capacity needs over a 20-year horizon for 21 planning regions across Ontario

- Community Engagement
- Investment in upgraded or new infrastructure/ projects to meet short, medium, long term needs

UTILITY

Conservation Planning

Required by province's Conservation First Framework, must cost-effectively reduce energy consumption by assigned target

- Program and project implementation to reduce electricity consumption
- M&V Reports
- Marketing and promotion campaigns

UTILITY

Distribution System Planning

Plans required by OEB every 5 years

- Growth Forecasts
- Asset Management plans
- Infrastructure investment or deferral
- Revised customer distribution rates

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Community Energy Planning

Primary goals are to reduce emissions, save energy costs, and spur investment. Encouraged by Provincial programs and legislation
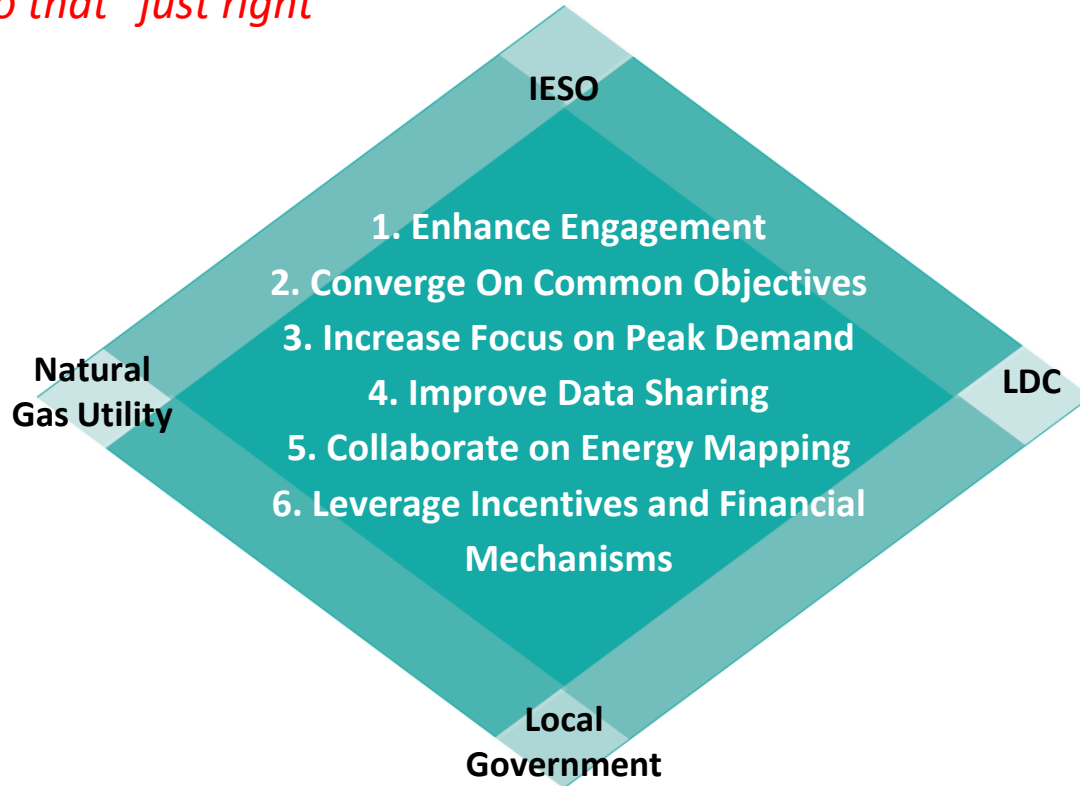
- Community Leadership Team
- Energy Use/Supply maps
- Policies and Programs
- Performance Indicators
- Progress Reports

TENSIONS...

6 RECOMMENDATIONS TO FOSTER ALIGNMENT

AKA how to get to that "just right" level of tension

IESO

1. Enhance Engagement
2. Converge On Common Objectives
3. Increase Focus on Peak Demand
4. Improve Data Sharing
5. Collaborate on Energy Mapping
6. Leverage Incentives and Financial Mechanisms

Natural Gas Utility

LDC

Local Government

MAKING PROGRESS!

1. **Enhanced Engagement and Plan Review**
   - *As the IESO evolves the regional planning process, improved municipal and community engagement has been a critical priority*
2. **Converge Around Common Objectives**
   - *Participants in the workshops reported a stronger understanding of shared/common goals*

3. **Focus on Peak Demand**
   - *Waterloo Region includes peak demand reduction as a KPI in their Community Energy Investment Strategy*

MAKING PROGRESS!

4. **Improve Data Sharing and Assumption Consistency**
   - *Alectra is working to establish a standardized process for data sharing with municipalities*

5. **Collaborate on Energy Mapping and Spatial Targeting**
   - *Discussions began in Waterloo Region about a distribution-level mapping exercise*
   - *Enbridge working with municipalities to identify new areas for innovative projects*

6. **Leverage Incentives and Financial Mechanisms**
   - *Municipalities are spreading awareness of Enbridge's incentives*

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